




RECOGNITIONS

### Samford's Quality Assurance Process Serves as a National Model

The University Professional and Continuing Education Association (UPCEA) recently highlighted Samford's online quality assurance process in its February 2019 Blog. The article includes several "take aways" for member institutions managing online programs including the use of a task force, establishing reasonable quality assurance initiatives, and the creation of sustainable professional development programs. For the full article, click here: [Three Steps for Energizing Quality Assurance in Online Course Design](#).

 **Apple Teacher** Instructional Designer Joe Zellner recently completed the Apple Teacher certification program, focusing on the use of iPad hardware and apps to enhance learning activities.

### Thank You for Your Commitment to Online Course Design

The Provost's Office received an outstanding number of new and revised online course development applications for the summer and fall. Thanks to all of you who submitted an application and your commitment to the online course design process! These applications are under review and notifications will be emailed by Friday, March 22.

**34** New Online Course Applications  
**19** Course Revision Applications

## The Canvas Corner

### Using Student View in a Canvas Course

By Taylor Kendrick

Utilizing the Student View option allows you to see the course exactly as your students see it. This option offers the opportunity to assess the functionality of learning activities and helps you to confirm that your content is visible to your students. Finally, Student View even lets you submit assignments, take quizzes, or add a post to a discussion forum via its built-in Test Student. Once

you've submitted work as a Test Student, you can leave Student View and grade your own work. The Student View provides a powerful tool for testing your course before your students arrive for the first day of class.

Access the Student View from your course's homepage. Select the Student View icon from the right side of your homepage, then move through your course as though you were the student. When you've completed your tour, select the "Leave Student View" button located on the bottom right side of your screen and your page will refresh back to the Instructor View.

Contact the Office of Online & Professional Studies if you need help with Student View.

### Training Sessions Available

The Office of Online and Professional Studies is available to provide training sessions specific to the needs expressed by individual academic units. Here are a few ways your unit could participate:

- A short tailored training session added to your regularly scheduled faculty meeting.
- If you are not sure exactly what you might need, we are happy to work with you to develop a customized program.
- Email [samfordonline@samford.edu](mailto:samfordonline@samford.edu) to schedule training.

#### Upcoming Canvas Training Sessions:

**April 4** - Canvas 101 / Open Labs  
1:00 - 2:00 DBH 416  
2:00- 3:00 DBH 423 (lab)

**May 1** - Canvas 101 / Open Labs  
2:00 - 3:00 DBH 416  
3:00- 4:00 DBH 423 (lab)

Click on the session dates to register.

QUALITY MATTERS



## Study Finds a Course Design Framework Increases Student Engagement in Nursing Courses

By Dr. Marci Johns

A recent study found that learner engagement was higher in courses designed using the Quality Matters (QM) Rubric. Specifically, the study revealed that courses designed using the QM rubric resulted in more student posts in the discussion forums and more interaction with course content. The QM framework supports best practices for course design by following the QM Rubric, which may then intrinsically lead to better course content and delivery.

***Click here to review the entire study: Does Using a Course Design Framework Better Engage our Online Nursing Students?***

Did You Know...

QM provides a QM Research Toolkit designed to guide anyone interested in conducting research on the impact of QM on online course design. The toolkit moves through the process of conducting a research project and provides examples for each step. Consider partnering with the Office of Online & Professional Studies for QM related research! Click here to read more.

## Only TWO Seats Left!

**April 12 - Applying the Quality Matters Rubric**

9:00 - 4:00, DBH 423

This course is essential for learning the underlying principles behind the QM Rubric. It is also a prerequisite for many other advanced QM courses including the QM Peer Reviewer course. This course will be ON SITE and completed in one day. Space is limited to 25 TOTAL. Contact Dr. Marci Johns (mjohns1) to register.

## Reminder

Spiritual Formation Modules are now available to use in your Canvas course. Contact Dr. Bryan Gill (bdgill) to gain access and step by step instructions for adding these modules to your existing Canvas course.



## We Want To Hear From You

The Office of Online and Professional Studies is always looking for ways to serve you better. Please let us know ways we can support you in the following areas:

- Professional development needs
- Course design process
- Educational technology
- Innovative pedagogy
- Online student support needs
- Advanced QM training

**Please send feedback to [samfordonline@samford.edu](mailto:samfordonline@samford.edu).**



EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGY TO ENHANCE YOUR ONLINE CLASSROOM

By Joe Zellner

One of the most effective ways to create polished, professional lectures, podcasts, and other instructional materials is to start with a high quality audio recording.

Though many computers and portable devices are equipped with fairly decent microphones, an external microphone often produces much better results. One of the most popular desktop microphones for this purpose is the Blue Yeti USB



microphone, which retails for \$100 or so.

The Office of Online and Professional Studies has several of these microphones available for short term loan to Samford faculty.

Several headsets with boom microphones are also available.



These are especially useful for recording in situations where some background noise is present, as the proximity of the microphone to the speaker's mouth automatically keeps the vocal level higher than the extraneous sounds. Before recording, be sure to adjust the microphone input level on your computer or other recording device. **Click here for a quick guide** on this topic for Mac, and **click here for a minute-long video** demo of the same process in Windows 10.